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HOG HOUSE For Gestating Sows



This gestation house is for the confinement of sows and replacement gilts from breeding time until they are moved to the farrowing house about 3 to 5 days prior to the anticipated farrowing date.

Hogs are most comfortable and make the most efficient use of feed at temperatures ranging between 60° and 70° F. However, in mild climates, a relatively simple shelter can often provide an acceptable environment for the animals if it has natural ventilation and an orientation which permits the utilization of—or protection from—the heat caused by solar radiation, as needed at the various seasons of the year.

This building must be oriented with its low sidewall facing south. Additional temperature control may be obtained by restricting the movement of air through the pens in winter and by cooling them with water sprays in the summer.

The plan for this house, intended as part of a full-confinement production operation, was developed at North Carolina State University. It could be used in a two-building system in conjunction with a farrow-to-finish unit and with one group of sows farrowing twice a year. The house has two 12-sow pens which are separated by an optional pen for a check boar to insure that all sows are settled. An individual stall is provided for each sow to reduce bossism among the animals. Except in the stalls, the pen floors are slotted with concrete or wooden slats over a water-filled waste collection pit along the south wall.

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Working drawings may be obtained from the extension agricultural engineer at your State university. There may be a small charge to cover cost of printing.

If you do not know the location of your State university, send your request to Agricultural Engineer, Federal Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. He will forward your request to the correct university.

ORDER PLAN NO. 6074, HOG HOUSE FOR GESTATING SOWS

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